

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES**

P.O. Box 419064, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9064



July 14, 2006

CSSIN LETTER: 06-04

ALL IV-D DIRECTORS  
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS  
ALL BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS

Reason for this Transmittal

- ☐ State Law or Regulation Change
- ☐ Federal Law or Regulation Change
- ☐ Court Order or Settlement Change
- ☐ Clarification requested by One or More Counties
- ☒ Initiated by DCSS

**SUBJECT: POLICY INTERPRETATION QUESTION (PIQ) 06-02 – GUIDANCE FOR  
SENDING THE NATIONAL MEDICAL SUPPORT NOTICE TO THE  
DEFENSE MANPOWER DATA CENTER**

The purpose of this letter is to inform local child support agencies (LCSAs) that the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families issued Policy Interpretation Question (PIQ) 06-02 on March 29, 2006. PIQ-06-02 discusses the need to send National Medical Support Notices (NMSNs) to the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) to determine enrollment and/or eligibility of health care coverage for children of active duty military personnel or military retirees. Pursuant to clarification provided in PIQ-06-02, LCSAs should not send the NMSN to DMDC. Instead, LCSAs can determine whether the children are enrolled or eligible to be enrolled by use of the Federal Case Registry/DMDC match, or through use of a Department of Defense Federal Employer Identification Number on the New Hire Report or Quarterly Wage Report for either the non-custodial parent or custodial party. For more information, a pdf version of PIQ-06-02 is attached.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Cindi Pocoroba with the Department of Child Support Services at (916) 464-5055.

Sincerely,  
/os/

KAREN ECHEVERRIA  
Deputy Director  
Child Support Services Division

cc: Dave Oppenheim, Child Support Director's Association

Attachments



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20447

PIQ-06-02

MAR 29 2006

DATE:

TO: State IV-D Directors

FROM: Margot Bean   
Commissioner  
Office of Child Support Enforcement

SUBJECT: Guidance for Sending the National Medical Support Notice (NMSN) to the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC)

**BACKGROUND:** The Federal regulations at 45 CFR 303.32(a) require use of the NMSN to enforce health care coverage **where appropriate**. PIQ-02-03, issued December 20, 2002, discusses the term “where appropriate” and states that “if the employer does not provide health care coverage for employee dependents, there would be no need for the IV-D agency to send the NMSN for those employees. However, the IV-D agency should make appropriate notation in the individual case record of the unavailability of health care coverage through that employer.” The PIQ is silent on procedures for sending the NMSN to the DMDC concerning health care coverage for dependents of active and retired military members.

**QUESTION:** Do IV-D agencies need to send National Medical Support Notices to the DMDC for children of active duty military personnel or military retirees?

**ANSWER:** No. Regulations at 45 CFR 303.32(a) require use of the NMSN to enforce health care coverage **where appropriate**. We have determined that it is not appropriate to send the NMSN to DMDC to enforce health care coverage for dependents of active duty military or retired military personnel. DMDC is unable to enroll dependents in the military health care program, TRICARE, which is an automatic entitlement for military personnel and their dependents. Therefore, IV-D agencies should not send the NMSN to DMDC for dependents of active duty and retired military personnel.

IV-D agencies can determine whether the children are enrolled or eligible to be enrolled in TRICARE by the following means:

- through the DMDC/FCR (Federal Case Registry) match (see Federal Case Registry Release 05-02 – Minor: September 23, 2005) or
- an appropriate DoD Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) on the New Hire Report or the Quarterly Wage Report for either the noncustodial parent (NCP) or the

custodial parent (CP) indicating that either parent is active duty military or retired military.

If a child is determined to be eligible for enrollment, as indicated by the DMDC/FCR match or by the FEIN from the New Hire Report or the Quarterly Wage Report, the IV-D agency should instruct the custodial parent to contact the nearest military ID Card issuing facility with the proper documentation to initiate the enrollment for the dependent. The IV-D agency should indicate in the individual case record where it obtained the child's medical enrollment status and make appropriate case updates from the next quarterly DMDC/FCR match.

**Department of Defense FEINs:**

- Army: Active Duty FEIN is 359990000
- Navy: Active Duty FEIN is 349990000
- Marine Corps: Active Duty FEIN is 539990000
- Air Force: Active Duty FEIN is 849990000
- Coast Guard Active Duty FEIN is 529980000
- NOAA Active Duty FEIN is 520821608
- Retired Military Pay: Retired FEIN is 340727612

Please note that there have been changes with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) since the publication of IM-96-02. The DEERS Telephone Center at DMDC referenced in PIQ-05-05 can no longer provide enrollment status of military dependents by telephone because of privacy restrictions and should not be used to request the enrollment status of military dependents.

This PIQ does not apply to the Department of Defense civilian personnel. For civilian employees, IV-D agencies must continue to send the NMSN to the Employer Address provided in the NDNH/Quarterly Wage reports.

**SUPERSEDED MATERIAL: PIQ-05-05.**

cc: ACF Regional Administrators  
ACF CSE Regional Program Managers  
Tribal IV-D Directors